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Pre-Amendment  
DSmallis-Logan  
3/5/03  
PATENT

Attorney Docket No. 5000.221  
Confirmation No. 2872

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re: Sumakeris et al.  
Serial No. 10/046,346  
Filed: October 26, 2001  
For: MINIMIZING DEGRADATION OF SiC  
BIPOLAR SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICES

Group Art Unit: 2832

November 13, 2002

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

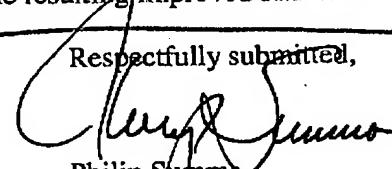
Sir:

Please amend the application as follows:

On page 1, please replace Paragraph 0001 as filed with the following paragraph:

**[0001]** This invention was developed with Government support under Government contracts F33615-01-2-2108 and F33615-00-C-5403. The Government may have certain rights in this invention. The present invention relates to increasing the quality and desired properties of semiconductor materials used in electronic devices, particularly power electronic devices. In particular, the invention relates to an improved process for minimizing crystal defects in silicon carbide, and the resulting improved structures and devices.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Philip Summa  
Reg. No. 31,573

021176  
SUMMA & ALLAN, P.A.  
11610 North Community House Road  
Suite 200, Ballantyne Corporate Place  
Charlotte, North Carolina 28277-2162  
Telephone: 704-945-6700  
Facsimile: 704-945-6735  
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